

Patent
10/770,045

REMARKS

Claims 27-29 are now pending in the application. Claims 30-44 have been canceled. Claim 27 is the only independent claim under consideration.

Claims 30-35 and 39-43 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,649,459 (Deboy et al.), Claims 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deboy in view of US Patent 6,376,878 (Kocon), and Claim 44 was rejected as being unpatentable over Deboy in view of US Patent 5,216,275 (Chen). Claim 38 was rejected as being unpatentable over Deboy and Kocon in view of US Patent 4,711,017 (Lammert).

In light of the foregoing claim cancellations, each of the rejections is believed moot, and is therefore respectfully traversed. Reconsideration is requested.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Prompt review and issuance is accordingly requested. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment After Final Rejection or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's undersigned attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,


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